

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

18

DECISION

TOPIC

Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 571 – 91 Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons

The Commission is requested to approve this Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 571 – 91 Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons. Chapter 571 – 91 provides the regulations for hunting waterfowl and coot, and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, and areas open to hunting. Season dates are adjusted annually to comply with federal law and to ensure that seasons open on a weekend.

The amendments adjust season dates for calendar date changes; remove the statewide two-day September Canada goose season; add an urban Canada goose zone around Cedar Falls and Waterloo; add parents and grandparents to the list of people eligible to hunt Canada geese on a landowner's farm in areas closed to Canada geese hunting in Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Jackson, and Butler Counties; and clarify the definition of who is eligible to hunt during the youth waterfowl season.

Ken Herring, Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
March 13, 2008

Attachment: Chapter 91, Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons NOIA

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]
Notice of Intended Action

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code subsection 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 571 –91 “Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons,” Iowa Administrative Code.

This rule gives the regulations for hunting waterfowl and coot and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, and areas open to hunting. Season dates are adjusted annually to comply with federal law and to ensure that seasons open on a weekend.

The amendments adjust season dates for calendar date changes, remove the statewide 2 day September Canada goose season, adds an urban Canada goose zone around Cedar Falls and Waterloo, adds parents and grandparents to the list of people eligible to hunt Canada geese on a landowner’s farm in areas closed to Canada geese hunting in Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Jackson, and Butler Counties, and clarifies the definition of who is eligible to hunt during the youth waterfowl season.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments on or before April 29, 2008. Written comments may be directed to the Wildlife Bureau's website at www.iowadnr.gov or may be sent to the Wildlife Bureau Chief, Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034; fax (515) 281-6794. Persons who wish to convey their views orally should contact the Wildlife Bureau at (515) 281-5034 or at the Wildlife Bureau offices on the fourth floor of the Wallace State Office Building. Also, there will be public hearings held at 18 locations via the Iowa Communications Network on April 29, 2008. Interested persons should contact the department at (515) 281-5918 for a list of hearing locations or go to the department's website at www.iowadnr.gov. At the hearings, persons may present their views either orally or in writing. At the hearings, persons will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the amendments.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearings and have special requirements such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments should contact the Department of Natural Resources and request specific accommodations.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, and 481A.48.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend subrule 571 –91.1(2) as follows:

91.1(2) Season dates - north zone. For all ducks: September ~~22~~ 20 through September ~~26~~ 24 and October ~~13~~ 18 through December ~~6~~ 11.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 571 –91.1(3) as follows:

91.1(3) Season dates - south zone. For all ducks: September ~~22~~ 20 through September ~~26~~ 24 and October ~~20~~ 18 through December ~~13~~ 11.

ITEM 3. Amend subrule 571 –91.3(2) as follows:

91.3(2) Season dates - north zone. Canada geese and brant: September ~~29~~ 27 through ~~December 9~~ October 5 and October 18 through December 21 and December ~~15~~ 27 through January ~~4~~ 11, ~~2008~~ 2009. White-fronted geese: September ~~29~~ 27 through December ~~9~~ 7. Light

geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese): September ~~29~~ 27 through January ~~13~~ 11, ~~2008~~ 2009.

ITEM 4. Amend subrule 571 – 91.3(3) as follows:

91.3(3) Season dates - south zone. Canada geese and brant: September ~~29~~ 27 through October ~~7~~ 5 and October ~~20~~ 18 through December ~~21~~ 21 and December ~~27~~ 27 through January ~~8~~ 11, ~~2008~~ 2009. White-fronted geese: September ~~29~~ 27 through December ~~9~~ 7. Light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese): September ~~29~~ 27 through January ~~13~~ 11, ~~2008~~ 2009.

ITEM 5. Amend subrule 571 – 91.3(7) as follows:

91.3(7) Light goose conservation order season. Only light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese) may be taken under a conservation order from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from January ~~14~~ 12, ~~2008~~ 2009, through April 15, ~~2008~~ 2009.

ITEM 6. Amend subrule 571 – 91.3(8) "b", as follows:

- 91.3(8) ~~Early Canada goose season. Reserved.~~
- ~~a. Zone boundary. Statewide.~~
 - ~~b. Season dates. September 8 and September 9.~~
 - ~~c. Bag limit. Daily bag limit is 2 Canada geese, except in the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City and Des Moines goose hunting zones.~~
 - ~~d. Possession limit. Twice the daily bag limit.~~

ITEM 7. Amend subrule 91.3(481A) - Goose hunting by adding the following:

- 91.3(11) Cedar Falls/Waterloo goose hunting zone.
- a. Season dates. September 1 through September 15.
 - b. Bag limit. Daily bag limit is 5 Canada geese.
 - c. Possession limit. Twice the daily bag limit.
 - d. Zone boundary. The Cedar Falls/Waterloo goose hunting zone includes those portions of Black Hawk County bounded as follows: Beginning at the intersection of County Roads C66 and V49 in Black Hawk County, thence south along County Road V49 to County Road D38, thence west along County Road D38 to State Highway 21, thence south along State Highway 21 to County Road D35, thence west along County Road D35 to Grundy Road, thence north along Grundy Road to County Road D19, thence west along County Road D19 to Butler Road, thence north along Butler Road to County Road C57, thence north and east along County Road C57 to U.S. Highway 63, thence south along U.S. Highway 63 to County Road C66, thence east along County Road C66 to the point of beginning.

ITEM 8. Amend subrule 91.5(1) "b", section "9", as follows:

91.5(1) Clay County, Dickinson County, Emmet County, Jackson County, and Butler County closed areas.

b. Criteria.

(9) Permits will be issued only to individual landowners or tenants; however, permit holders must specify, when requesting a permit, the names of all other individuals qualified to hunt on the permit. Individuals qualified to hunt on the permit shall include the landowners or

tenants and their spouses, parents, grandparents, children, children's spouses, grandchildren, siblings and siblings' spouses only.

ITEM 9. Amend subrule 571--91.6(481A) as follows:
571--91.6(481A) Youth waterfowl hunt. A special youth waterfowl hunt will be held on October ~~6 4~~ and ~~7 5~~, ~~2007~~ 2008, in the north duck hunting zone and October ~~6 4~~ and ~~7 5~~, ~~2007~~ 2008, in the south duck hunting zone. Youth hunters must be residents of Iowa as defined in 483.1A and less than 16 15 years old ~~or younger~~. Each youth hunter must be accompanied by an adult 18 years old or older. The youth hunter does not need to have a hunting license or stamps. The adult must have a valid hunting license and habitat stamp if normally required to have them to hunt and a state waterfowl stamp. Only the youth hunter may shoot ducks and coots. The adult may hunt for any other game birds for which the season is open. The daily bag and possession limits are the same as for the regular waterfowl season, as defined in rule 91.1(481A). All other hunting regulations in effect for the regular waterfowl season apply to the youth hunt.

Date

Richard A. Leopold, Director

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